

REMARKS

I. Introductory Comments

Applicants appreciate the Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due that was received in connection with the present application.

Prior to paying the Issue Fee, Applicants -- with the filing of the present Request for Continued Examination -- wish to bring the following items to the attention of the Examiner:

- (i) amendments to the claims;
- (ii) notice related applications;
- (iii) confirmation of priority claim; and
- (iv) supplemental information disclosure statement.

II. Amendments to the Claims

Previously, claims 1-3, 6-16, 18, 19, 23, 24, 26 and 27 were allowed. With the present amendments to the claims, Applicants amend claims 13-15, 23, 24 and 26. No claims have been added or canceled. Thus, claims 1-3, 6-16, 18, 19, 23, 24, 26 and 27 remain under consideration.

Support for the changes to the claims is identified below. Additional support other than that identified below may exist in the originally filed application for one or more changes to the claims.

Claims 13-15, 23 and 24 have been amended to include a comma (",") after reciting the claim number to which the claim depends. The amendment serves to ensure consistency among all the claims and is not substantive in nature.

In addition, claim 26 has been amended to capitalize the word --claim--. The amendment serves to ensure consistency among all the claims and is not substantive in nature.

As support for the changes is found in the application as filed, no new matter is introduced by the entry of the above-identified changes. The changes to the claims are made for clarification purposes only should not be interpreted as acquiescence in any claim rejection.

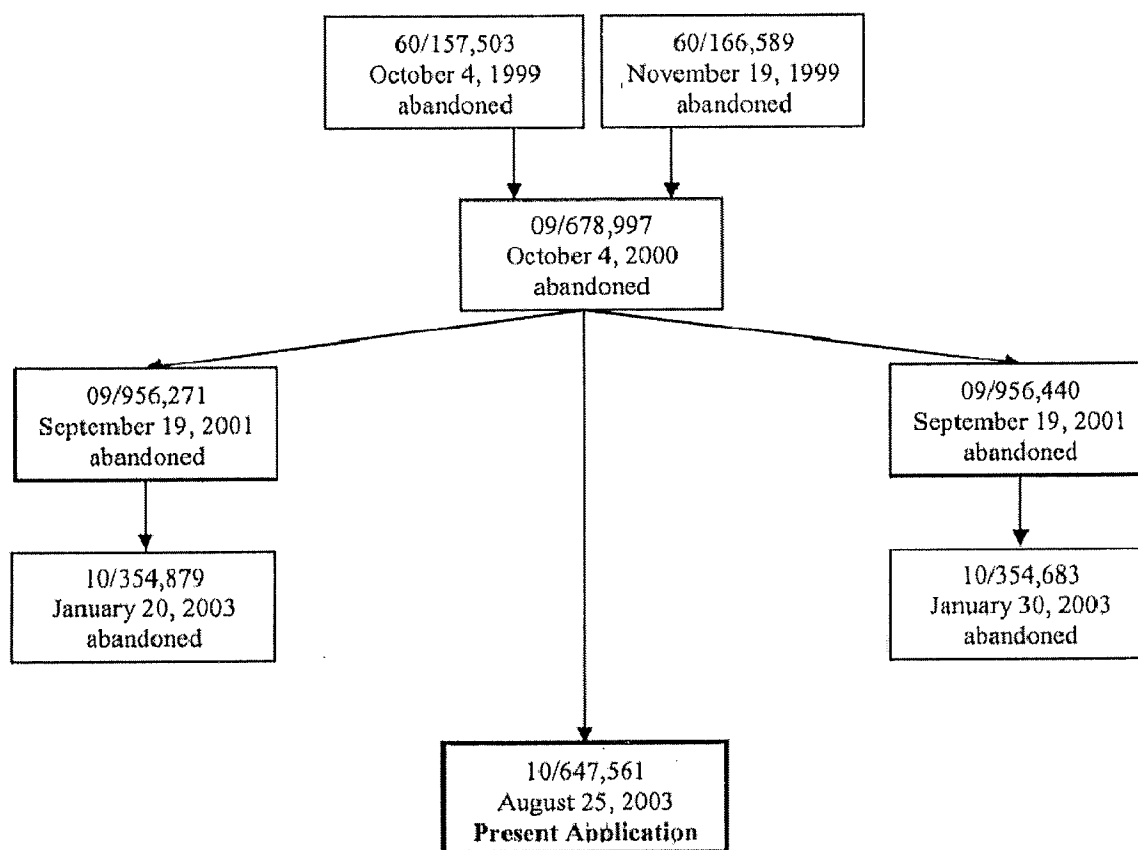
III. Notice of Related Applications

In an abundance of caution, Applicants wish to ensure that the Examiner is aware that the present application is a continuation of "parent" U.S. Patent Application No. 09/678,997,

abandoned, which claims the benefit of priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/166,589, filed November 19, 1999, and U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/157,503, filed October 4, 1999.

In addition, "sibling" applications to the present application include: (a) U.S. Patent Application No. 10/354,879, filed January 30, 2003, abandoned, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/956,271, filed September 19, 2001, abandoned, which is a divisional of the "parent" application assigned U.S. Patent Application No. 09/678,997; and (b) U.S. Patent Application No. 10/354,683, filed January 30, 2003, abandoned, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/956,440, filed September 19, 2001, abandoned.

For the convenience of the Examiner, the relationship between these related cases can be depicted schematically as shown below.



Although the prosecution history for all of these matters is available to the Examiner through the files of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Applicants will provide a copy of any document associated with any of these matters upon request.

IV. Confirmation of Priority Claim

The Filing Receipt of the present application correctly indicates that the present application claims priority to *both* U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/166,589, filed November 19, 1999, and U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/157,503, filed October 4, 1999.

Applicants note, however, that the "PAIR system" appears to only list U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/166,589, filed November 19, 1999.

In view of the error associated with the records reflected in the "PAIR system," the Examiner is asked to correct the error. If any further action is required by Applicants to perfect the claim of priority back to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/166,589, filed November 19, 1999, and U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/157,503, filed October 4, 1999, the Examiner is asked to identify such action in writing in the next communication.

V. The Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants include herewith a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement listing several references. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the references cited therein and provide an initialed copy of the PTO/SB/08a forms confirming the same.

VI. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that all rejections preventing allowance of the claims have been addressed. Consequently, the mailing of a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

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If a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (415) 482-5629.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of
Nektar Therapeutics,

Date: February 16, 2011

By: /Mark A. Wilson/
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